REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 6-11, 13, and 15-21 are pending, in which claims 3, 5, 12, and 14 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claim 4 is currently amended, and no claims are withdrawn from consideration or newly presented. No new matter is introduced.

The Office Action mailed November 12, 2010 objected to claim 4 and rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6-11, 13, 15-18 and 20 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Pruthi et al.* (US 2002/0105911) in view of *Bahadiroglu et al.* (US 2002/0186660), and *Bertram et al.* (US 6,144,379) and claims 19 and 21 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Pruthi et al.* (US 2002/0105911) in view of *Bahadiroglu et al.* (US 2002/0186660), *Bertram et al.* (US 6,144,379), and *Hilliker* (US 2002/0100422).

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the withdrawal of all previous rejections. In addition, regarding the objection to claim 4, "thta" has been amended to "that." Accordingly, the objection has been overcome.

Applicants respectfully traverse the new ground of rejection over *Pruthi*, *Bahadiroglu*, and *Bertram*, as none of the cited references, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests "the sequence of messages read in by the selector is dependent upon a selection of a specific point of the course of the first characteristic feature that is selectable in the second region," "the display device is configured to display a selectable marking produced automatically by the selector in the second region based on a predefined additional item of information stored during storage of messages in the storage device," and "upon selection of the marking, a sequence of messages which corresponds to the specific point of the selected marking is read in from the storage device," as positively recited in the claims. The Office Action (pages 5-6) admits that *Pruthi*

and *Bahadiroglu* fail to disclose the above-noted limitations, but asserts that *Bertram* discloses them in FIG. 4, column 4, lines 12-32, column 5, lines 19-29 and 41-49, and column 6, lines 16-50.

Bertram, in column 4, lines 12-32, states:

> Referring to FIG. 1, a typical data processing system is shown which may function as the computer controlled display terminal used in implementing the network monitoring, managing and graph control functions in the present invention. A central processing unit (CPU) such as one of the PowerPC microprocessors available from International Business Machines Corporation (PowerPC is a trademark of International Business Machines Corporation) is provided and interconnected to various other components by system bus 12. An operating system 41 runs on CPU 10 and provides control and is used to coordinate the function of the various components of FIG. 1. Operating system 41 may be one of the commercially available operating systems such as DOS or the OS/2 operating system available from International Business Machines Corporation (OS/2 is a trademark of International Business Machines Corporation). A programming system monitoring and management application 40 to be subsequently described in detail runs in conjunction with operating system 41 and provides output calls to the operating system 41 which implement the various functions to be performed by the application 40.

As best understood, the above passage merely describes the computer system used for network monitoring. There is no mention of a sequence of messages, characteristic features, or selectable markings.

Column 5, in lines 19-29 and 41-49, states:

> It should be noted that a variety of databases, 71 through 79, are shown respectively associated with network objects at various levels. These databases represent the various locations and repositories at which parameters and parameter values which may be used to form the hypergraphs in accordance with the present invention are stored. Thus, when the obtaining or fetching of parameter values are subsequently described, it should be understood that they may be obtained from such databases or combination of databases throughout the network using any conventional network expedient for obtaining data.
>
> ...
>
> With respect to FIG. 3, there is shown an example of a graph used for monitoring a single parameter which for this example will be % of storage

> capacity used up on a network server. We are using severs for the present embodiment because, as stated earlier, the great advantages of the present invention will be realized in network monitoring. Other network parameters may be CPU utilization, memory I/O, port I/O and physical drive workloads, as well as various information distribution traffic parameters.

As best understood, the above passages explain that storage capacity of various network servers is monitored, and that the data is stored in databases 71-79 and is used to form hypergraphs. Although storage capacity arguably might be considered a characteristic feature, again there is no mention of sequences of messages or selectable markings.

Column 6, lines 16-50, states:

> The display screen of FIG. 3 is laid out with a pair of dividing lines 96 and 97 which breaks the screen up into three zones 98, 99 and 100 to help the user monitoring the screen. In this example, let us assume that zone 100 is the safe operational zone for the parameter, zone 99 is safe but transitional and zone 98 is a critical zone where the storage associated with the servers represented by icons 90 is reaching capacity and some action may be needed. The server icons 90 may be shown without any alphanumeric identifiers in order to keep the screen as uncluttered as possible. When needed, the identifiers may be brought up, for example, by any conventional means such as moving a cursor via mouse control to hover over the icon for a given time to cause the id. to appear. Note in FIG. 3, icons 91, 92, 93 and 94 have ids. 95 respectively associated with each.
>
> In the present example, let us assume that the user is concerned about server 91 in critical zone 98 which has been identified as AUS-1; he may then select server icon 91 for a line graph by any conventional mouse clicking technique. FIG. 4 is the screen of FIG. 3 after the user has made such a selection of server 91. Linked graph 101, which is a line graph showing the profile of the % storage capacity used over a time parameter along the X axis is brought up in window 102. Window 102 may be formed by any conventional windowing system such as Windows 95 or OS/2. Thus, the user has a line graph in which an icon 103 representative of server AUS-1 is graphed, in this case hourly, to show changes over a 12 hour period. The linked graph concept may be applied even further by linking the line graph shown in FIG. 4 even further. Assume that the user wishes to graphically look at a parameter of server AUS-1 which may be related to the storage % parameter at 3 PM by clicking on icon 103', the user may bring up a line graph (not shown) for a related parameter such as memory I/O.

According to FIG. 3 and the above passage, FIG. 3 displays the capacity used for various servers, wherein each icon 90 through 95 represents a server, and its height on the display indicates the average capacity used over a particular time period. An icon may be selected to display a line graph of the profile (e.g., hourly) of the percent storage capacity used by that server over the time period. Any given hour may then be selected to bring up a line graph for another parameter. There is no mention of a sequence of messages, and the markings which may be selected are not based on a predefined additional item of information stored during storage of messages in the storage device.

In *Bertram*, the first display is a "'snap-shot' of the distribution parameter monitored over a selected time period" (see column 5, lines 63-65), not a sequence of messages read in by the selector. Each point in the first display represents an average value over a 12 hour time period. There is no sequence of messages. The second display (as described in column 6, lines 31-50) is not a display of a course of a first characteristic feature, but rather is essentially an expansion of a single point of the first display. The second display shows the entire 12 hour time period for one server (i.e., one point) of the first display. No first characteristic feature is involved. The markings mark times on the second display; as shown, each hour is marked. The markings are not based on an additional item of information stored during the storage of the messages. Further, a selection of a marking does not display a sequence of messages read in from the storage device, no less a sequence of messages which correspond to the point of the selected marking. Selection of a marking merely displays other data for the particular time of the marking, not a sequence. Therefore, *Bertram* does not fill in the gaps in the combination of *Pruthi* and *Bahadiroglu*.

In addition, the Office Action refers to *Bertram*'s goal of providing less cluttered and easier graphical display access to communication networks and particularly to user interactive access for network monitoring and administration purposes, as motivation for

> incorporate[ing] the sequence of messages read in by the selector is dependent upon a selection of a specific point of the course of the first characteristic feature that is selectable in the second region, the display device is configured to display a selectable marking produced automatically by the selector in the second region based on a predefined additional item of information, upon selection of the marking, a sequence of messages which corresponds to the specific point of the selected marking is read in from the storage device

into the system and method of *Pruthi* and *Bahadiroglu*. However, *Bertram* accomplishes the goal of providing less cluttered graphical display access to communication networks by providing a first display with averages, a second display with an expansion of a point in the first display, and a third display of other information for a point in the second display, not a first display of all messages, a second more limited display showing the course of a first characteristic, and a third display showing messages read in from storage that correspond to a point in the second display. Therefore, the motivation for modifying the system and method of *Pruthi* and *Bahadiroglu* would not result in the claimed limitations. Accordingly, the obviousness rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 6-11, 13, 15-18 and 20 cannot be sustained.

As to the rejection of claims 19 and 21 over *Pruthi*, *Bahadiroglu*, and *Bertram* in view of *Hilliker*, the Office Action relies upon *Hilliker* for disclosure of "the specific event is a change of attenuation." However, as *Hilliker* does not disclose selectable markers that are based on a second characteristic, *Hilliker* fails to provide motivation for making the second characteristic in the proposed combination of *Pruthi*, *Bahadiroglu*, and *Bertram* a change in attenuation. Further, since *Hilliker* does not teach selectable markings based upon a second characteristic, the proposed combination of *Pruthi*, *Bahadiroglu*, *Bertram*, and *Hilliker* still fails to teach or suggest

a selectable marking in the display of a first characteristic feature in a second window, and selection of the marking resulting in the reading in from storage of a sequence of messages corresponding to the marking. Therefore, the obviousness rejection of claims 19 and 21 cannot be sustained.

Therefore, the present application, as amended, overcomes the objections and rejections of record and is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 519-9952 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 504213 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully Submitted,

DITTHAVONG MORI & STEINER, P.C.

January 13, 2011
Date

/Phouphanomketh Ditthavong/
Phouphanomketh Ditthavong
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 44658

Anita Pellman Gross
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 63325

918 Prince Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Tel. (703) 519-9952
Fax (703) 519-9958